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# DIGEST OF CURRENT ECONOMIC STATISTICS MARCH 1976

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The Digest contains the latest available figures at the time of issue for a selection of monthly and quarterly series. For a wider range of statistics reference should be made to the Monthly Review of Business Statistics which is more comprehensive and covers a longer run of years but is not quite as up to date as the Digest. Where possible series in the Digest are shown both in their original and seasonally adjusted form.

Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these and other series are given in Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1975, issued by this Bureau in July 1975 which contains original and seasonally adjusted data in tabular and graphical form for one hundred and twenty three selected series. The seasonally adjusted indicators included therein are up-dated in relevant monthly and quarterly publications of this Bureau.

As well as being adjusted for normal seasonal factors, some of the statistical series included in the Digest have been adjusted for the effects of some

calendar irregularities, namely: 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc., in the month) and the influence of movable holidays, i.e. Easter and Australia Day. The adjustments made to each series are indicated in Appendix B of Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1975.

The seasonally adjusted series are subject to revision.

# Symbols and other Usages

p - preliminary. Subject to revision.

r - revised.

 Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

			k coal tonnes	Iron ore (b)	Lead (c) '000 tonnes		tricity .kWh	Gas (d) mil.megajoules		steel tonnes		ment tonnes		ehicles (e)	under	c motors one hp
1	Month	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1974-75	-January	4.752	6,124		[25.8	5,379	5,889	12,354	679	694	305	418	13.9	29.5	147	264
	February	6,412	6.531	24.857	33.5	5,489	6,356	12,682	660	726	401	440	34.7	34.8	287	322
	March	5,189	5,830		34.4	5,824	6,240	14,141	692	688	415	412	33.1	33.7	303	333
	april	6.380	6,721		(35.3	5,907	6,113	14,989	640	672	413	415	36.3	33.6	316	323
	May	6,646	5,929	90 د, 24	35.4	6,482	6,166	16,159	664	657	460	433	43.2	40.6	304	308
	June	5,358	4.892		35.1	6,795	6,298	18,276	573	628	424	418	39.7	38.3	294	320
1975-76 -	Inty	4.846	4.1571		136.5	7,028	6.031	19.157	593	569	439	412	41.5	36.6	325	279
	August	3,614	4.129	25,429	35.9	6,776	6.137	18,737	735	717	429	413	39.7	38.6	328	302
	September	4.691	4,355		36.1	6,274	6,033	17,109	696	689	450	437	42.1	37.2	324	286
	October	7,478	6,287		(37.7	6,363	6,306	17,094	589	551	443	399	43.7	37.9	392	311
	November	6,738	6,276	23,008	34.0	5,940	6,380	15,418	663	646	449	422	35.9	35.4	382	337
	December	4.990	7,452		28.9	5,959	6,336	14,312	661	633	389	408	34.0	38.9	320	319
	January		-		-	5,770	6,352	13,260	672	684	255	351	13.0	29.4	171	331
	February					5,880	6,668	15,002	584	624	416	442	40.0	39.8	333	372

(a) Engures are preliminary and subject to revision. (b) Gross mine output. (c) Metallic contents of mine products. (d) Available for issue through mains; includes natural gas. (e) Includes vehicles which are disposed of by the manufacturer in a partly finished state.

PRODUCTION - continued

C	

		(excl.	oven cloth towels	worsted v	len and woven cloth	Man-made	Boots, shoes and			milk pr	role oduction	recei	nd Dealers vals of ie wool		unie II
			reling) (a) ) sq m		nketing) (a) ) sy m	fibre cloth (a) '000 sq m	sandals (a) '000 pairs		11 (a) tonnes		ooses (a) litres	Total Receivals	% of total received by	end of	
	Month	Original	Seas adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	000 kg	brokers(b)	Original	Seas adj
974-75	Jacoary	744	1.634	274	420	3.382	1,296	184	206	673	549	45,677	83.8 ]		
	February	3,239	3,426	563	488	6,906	2.194	182	207	489	536	42,403	78.1	13,797	13,904
	March	2,964	3,049	528	496	7,041	2,226	183	198	432	501	39,320	76.6		
	April	2,775	2,980	455	424	7,449	2,471	199	191	359	543	37,610	76.7		
	May	3,816	3,184	572	586	8,890	2,396	201	177	303	552	33,637	76.0	r14,015	14,05
	June	3,331	3,155	561	720	10,141	2,243	202	192	284	538	26,697	77.2		
975-76	July	2.572	3,346	680	641	10,419	2,794	229	201	363	525	42,903	76.0 ]		
	August	4,694	4,005	651	722	10.065	2.761	186	186	530	548	64,730	79.0	r14 303	14,194
	September	4,276	3,913	692	657	10,703	2,629	204	204	687	550	95,245	82.8		
	October	4,940	4,235	813	737	11.034	3,144	222	205	838	563	99,403	79.2 1		
	November	3.878	3,666	738	635	9,729	2,569	191	205	825	567	88,322	79.3	14,539	14,49
	December	3,141	3,877	635	643	7,213	1,966	195	215	798	564	68,700	81.5		
	January	1.398	3,058	418	684	4,877	1,240	183	210	639	531	35,604	77.3		
	Laborer	2 70 2	4.013	766	660	9 795		205	220						

(a) Figures are preliminary and are subject to revision. (b) Members of the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia. (c) Owned by private enterprises in

#### OVERSEAS TRADE

					Inday o	f value of	laday .	f value of	Export pr	ice index		
		ooris, value Sm		ports, value Sm	merchana at const	lise exports ant prices 7 = 100	merchand at const	isc imports ant prices 7 = 100	All groups 1959-66	All groups excl. wool = 100	asse	l reserve Is (e: m
Month	Original	Seas. acti	Original	Seas adj	Original	Seas, adj	Original	Scas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Seas adj
1974-75 - January	747	723	710	670 ]					ſ 185	216	3,133	3,210
February	735	755	591	621 -	168	169	144	145	181	211	3,101	3,211
March	676	742	544	598					185	215	3,220	3,304
April	769	813	655	679					184	214	3.317	3,391
May	801	718	646	634	177	174	141	145	183	211	3,392	3,376
June	770	816	546	587					178	206	3,493	3,434
1975-76 -July	756	771	689	639 ]					[179	207	3,545	3,517
August	831	826	6.34	638	171	174	154	152	181	210	3,429	3.364
September	688	697	636	653					180	210	3,318	3,352
October	817	728	686	585					183	212	3,172	3,110
November	695	684	636	650					184	213	3,211	3,110
December	774	810	656	677					187	216	2,588	2,554
January	763	742	700	689					186	214	2,619	2.680
February	775	810	680	717							2,663	2,756

### INTERNAL TRADE

				Retail	Sales†				Instalment credit for retail sales				
	except mo parts, pet		food &	roceries drink (a) m	electrical and fur	hing hardware niture (a) m		(a) (b) m	finance companies and other businesses, balances outstanding (c) \$m	cars and	motor i station registered 00	vehicles re	ew motor egistered (d) 000
Month	Original	Seas. adj	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas adj.	Original	Seas adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj
1974-75 -January February March April May	1,302 1,219 1,300 1,387 1,479	1,350 1,370 1,396 1,434 1,421	1,848	1,875	1,268	1.476	704 736	752 783	2,068 2,066 2,077 2,082 2,092	30.4 44.4 44.4 51.6 42.7	33.8 50.9 48.0 53.2 38.0	7.8 9.2 9.6 11.2	9.0 10.9 11.0 10.4 9.9
June 1975-76 –July	1,348	1,466							2,097	38.2 43.3	38.8 39.3	10,3	10.3
August September October	1,427 1,444 1,567	1,469 1,497 1,503	1.957	2,006	1,560	1,612	773	811	2,140 2,156 2,181	39.4 34.0 39.6	39.8 33.0 35.9	10.7 9.9 11.2	10.6 9.7 9.8
November December January February	1,560 2,007 1,487 1,407	1,524 1,542 1,545 1,559	2,257	2,122	1,905	1.632	965	826	2,208 2,245 2,265	31.7 32.9 30.1 33.4	31.6 32.9 34.1 38.4	9.3 8.4 8.6 9.0	9.4 8.8 10.4 10.7

(a) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory (b) Other; excludes motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. (c) At end of month, amounts financed to new agreements made were. November 5m128, December 5m147, January 5m120. (d) Comprises light commercial type vehicles, trucks, other truck type vehicles and buses. (c) Replaces previously published series tool and net foreign agrees.

† Based on the 1968-69 census of retail establishments

					Weekly		Consumer pr	ice index, six cap	oitals, year l	966-67 = 100.0			
	tractors agricultur	wheeled s sold for al purposes to.	carni	e weekly ngs per I nule unit \$	wage rates index . adult males (a) 1954 = 100	All groups	Food	Cle hing and drapery	Housing	Household supplies and equipment	Miscell- aneous group	at large fact	vertime (h) r private ories ours
Month	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas adj		Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adi.
1974-75 - January February March April May	3,335 4,420	3,433 3,612	143.60 156.30	152.00	\[ \begin{pmatrix} 374.4 \ 375.4 \ 380.1 \ 380.7 \ 398.0 \end{pmatrix} \]	174.1	163.4	175.2	190.2	149.2	187 2	1.8 2.3 2.2 2.0 2.0	2.1 2.2 2.1 2.2 1.9
June J 1975-76 – July August September	2,953	3,375	157.70	158.80	\[ \begin{align*} 400.1 \\ 401.1 \\ 416.3 \end{align*}	181.6	171.6	187.1	207.5	158.1	188.2	1.6 1.8 1.8	1.6 1.7 1.8 1.8
October November December January			172.40	163.80	416.5 416.6 417.0 417.2	191.7	176.9	200.0	218.4	162.9	203.2	1.9 2.1 2.1 1.6	1.9 2.0 1.9 2.6

(a) Weighted average. Excludes rural. (b) Source: Department of Employment and Industrial Relations. Average hours worked in survey week.

BUILDING, ETC.

						_									l expenditur businesses (a	
			approvals im	app dwe	ilding rovals ellings units	Government building approved \$m	comi	ilding nenced otal Sm	comi	ellings nenced units	than d	ngs, other lwellings nenced Im	stru	ngs and ctures im	equip	capital pment Im
	Month	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj	Original	Seas. adj
1974-75 -	- January	263.2	319.6	7.5	9.3	88.9 1										
	February	257.1	277.9	8.3	9.4	70.4	1,086.1	1,089.1	28.4	29.2	515.8	507.7	441.4	512.7	641.1	707.6
	March	324.2	354.3	9.9	10.7	94.3										
	April	398.6	384.2	11.1	10.4	140.9										
	May	426.6	402.7	11.9	11.0	141.4	1,203.6	1,175.6	32.9	31.7	510.3	496.8	585.4	559.3	852.7	819.8
	June	484.6	426.7	12.8	12.4	209.6										
1975-76	July	461.1	402.2	12.5	11.3	133.8										
	August	359.6	397.9	10.4	10.4	79.5	1,345.8	1,322.2	35.1	34.1	551.0	560.9	545.5	545 4	814.8	828.5
	September	530.4	519.3	12.4	11.4	168.8										
	October	401.6	365.5	12.1	11.2	72.4 ]										
	November	405.5	417.1	12.4	12.8	73.7			31.7	33.1			582.1	531.4	858.6	799.4
	December	400.3	422.1	11.8	12.4	63.8										
	January	343.2	435.3	8.8 11.7	11.4 13.2	52.2 ° 65.7										
	February	396.2	425.0	11.7	13.2	05.7										

### Major Trading Banks †

		s for Lake						New and increased	Finance companies.	Commun-			Taxatio	revenue.
	Dep	iavings banks oosits m	Housing loans \$m		osits m		ances m	lending commit- ments \$m	balances outstanding (a) \$m	wealth hond yield short dated Per cent	new mor	ompanies ney raised m	Common State con revenu	wealth and nsolidated e funds m
Month	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Origina!	Seas adj
1974-75 - January	12.012	12,025	4,038	13,179	12,640	9,504	9,620	89.2	8,153	8.20 ]			1.305	1,379
February	12,184	12,214	4,158	13,628	12,928	9,526	9,732	108.0	8,128	8.10	255.9	343.3	1,067	1,350
March	12,218	12,309	4,315	13,983	13,432	9,485	9,632	132.4	8,125	8.12			1.088	1,235
April	12,259	12,437	4,460	14,159	13,788	9,643	9,517	126.7	8,090	8.24			1.933	1,409
May	12,407	12,590	4,583	13,700	13,848	9,913	9,709	129.0	8,075	8.18	279.6	304.5	2.787	1.372
June	12,790	12,828	4,717	13,665	14,189	9,932	9,743	115.2	8,105	8.30 J			1.807	1,375
1975-76 -July	12,946	12,920	4,826	13,910	14,547	10,046	9,870	100.4	8,094	8.22 ]			[1.08]	1.379
August	13,198	13,103	4,909	14,179	14,782	10,014	10,005	90.8	8,173	8.23	286.9	271.2	1.404	1,419
September	13,442	13,591	5,016	14,497	14,935	10,057	10,107	93.3	8,240	8.22			1,1.022	1,529
October	13,744	13,557	5,170	14,943	15,112	10,195	10,166	102.3	+8,401	8.31			[1,143	1,451
November	13,804	13,688	5,255	15,067	15,182	10,072	10,185	101.1	+8,480	8.26	353.8	275.3	1,658	1,489
December	14,006	13,976	5,395	15,500	15,230	10,177	10,293	99.0	+8,542	8.20			1.304	1.481
January	14,044	14,043	5,437	15,679	15,087	10,290	10,416	98.5	8,516	8.32			1,510	1.617
February	14,150	14,166	5,525	15.536	14,748	10,177	10,386	96.5		8.28				

(a) Contracts including charges, plus contracts excluding charges. Amounts shown are intended to provide a broad overall measure of total balances outstanding; however, movements may be affected by changes in the proportion of the two components to the total. For further details see the monthly publication "linance Companies"; (Reference No. 5.14).

<sup>†</sup> Includes external territories

# NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

								Fi	nal consumpi	ion expendii	ture	G	ross fixed cap	ital expendit	ture
			estic product m	Gross fari	n product m		farm product im		vate m		rnment im		vate m		blic im
(	Quarter	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. acti	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
							AT CURRE	NT PRICES							
1974-75	- September December March June	13,524 16,254 14,168 15,057	13,836 14,632 14,836 15,709	652 1,608 1,037 327	892 916 915 843	12,872 14,646 13,131 14,730	12,944 13,716 13,921 14,866	8,046 8,867 8,428 9,201	8,106 8,365 8,817 9,292	1,976 2,297 2,198 2,621	2,030 2,195 2,372 2,487	2,131 2,264 1,970 2,423	2,120 2,131 2,192 2,344	1,042 1,384 1,245 1,693	1,136 1,325 1,375 1,494
1975-76	September December	15,845 18,657	16,130 16,707	646 1,839	895 991	15,199 16,818	15,235 15,716	9,433 10,383	9,506 9,805	2,536 2,872	2,606 2,743	2,424 2,567	2,414 2,423	1,399 1,677	1,526 1,600
						AT	AVERAGE 1	966-67 PRI	CES						
1974-75	September December March June	7,687 8,916 7,696 7,865	7,851 8,042 8,060 8,193	469 1,096 766 407	611 691 712 707	7,218 7,820 6,930 7,458	7,240 7,351 7,348 7,486	4,991 5,281 4,883 5,193	5,032 4,998 5,110 5,222	927 982 910 1,066	946 961 965 1,009	1,259 1,256 1,058 1,269	1,260 1,186 1,172 1,220	584 741 651 847	635 710 718 751
975-76	September December	7,888 8,884	8,674 7,924	531 1,287	691 782	7,357 7,597	7,383 7,142	5,108 5,366	5,157 5,077	995 1,046	1,016 1,024	1,218 1,243	1,218	691 794	752 760

### AT CURRENT PRICES - continued

							ing surplus o nterprises	ſ			Income of farm unin-	Other	Less direct	Househol disposabl
	and s	of goods ervices im	and s	of goods crvices Im		panies m		ther im	suppl	slaries and ements im	corporated enterprises \$m	household income \$m	(a) \$m	income \$m
Quarter	Original	Seas adj	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Origina						
974-75 - September December March June	2,689 2,654 2,285 2,319	2,610 2,652 2,334 2,344	2,240 2,521 2,450 2,570	2,294 2,420 2,467 2,599	1,346 1,843 1,208 1,804	1,298 1,588 1,397 1,926	2,657 3,755 2,927 2,293	2,796 2,858 2,947 2,994	8,214 9,201 8,538 9,237	8,334 8,743 9,018 9,153		not yet avai	ilable	
975-76 September December	2.447 2.477	2,380 2,480	2,443 2,672	2,504 2,559	1,779 2,035	1.714	3,055 4,495	3,190 3,396	9,412 10,300	9,508 9,745				

(a) Direct taxes deducted are those paid or payable by persons to general government. These include income tax payable and estate and gift duties, all other direct taxes, fees for service of a regulatory character and fines and gifts paid. Also deducted here are consumer debt interest and transfers to overseas.

### 1.ABOUR FORCE (a)

#### UNEMPLOYMENT AND IOR VACANCIES

					THE COURT	ORCE (a)					UNEMPLO	YMENT AND	JOB VACA!	CIES		
		male	our force s civilian 7000	nom_	force, married ten civilian '000	ci	force, total vilian persons		ved persons	for emplo	registered syment (b)	numbe	ment benefit r on (c) persons	registe	cancies red (b)	
	Month	Original	Seas. adj	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj	Original	Seus ach	Original	Seas. adj	
1974-75	-January February March	(d)3,916.8	(d)3,892.3	(d)1,289.7	(d)1,294.5	(d)5,976.5	(d)5,938.0	(d)272.4	(d)222.3	311.6 297.7	226.0 252.0	182.3 184.2	134.3 162.7	42.5 38.4	34.7 34.5	
	April May June	3,896.3	3,897.3	1,288.6	1.295.7	5,940.1	5,955.6	229.6	259.5	270.8 265.4 248.1 246.0	267.8 281.1 270.0 270.2	157.5 168.5 159.9 160.7	162.8 166.8 160.3 164.1	34.5 31.3 28.8 25.5	33.7 33.5 31.6 29.9	
1975-76	-July August September October	3.872.7	3,893.6	1,293.0	1,299.7	5,921.5	5,961.1	233.5	295.3	251.6 248.2 246.1	287.7 299.9 303.7	(e) 170.9 179.9	(e) 188.5 213.2	25.5 26.2	30.5 29.3	
	November December January February	3,918.9	3,921.5	1,356.4	1,337.3	6,078.2	6,061.5	279.1	277.2	247.2 265.6 328.7 343.9	315.8 288.2 286.9 257.4	176.5 184.5 231.3	228.8 215.9 187.9	26.0 25.0 28.4 29.3	26.6 23.6 26.5 26.4	
								273.3	222.8	303.7	254.6	248.6 215.3	182.7 190.1	35.2 31.0	28.8 27.8	

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. The labour force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed. (b) Registered with Commonwealth Employment Service at Friday nearest the end of the month. (c) At Saturday nearest the end of month. (d) Excludes Darwin. (e) Unavailable due to the introduction of new administrative procedures.

# CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES (a)

Month	Total civilian employees '000						Private/Government '000 persons				Principal industries '000 persons			
	Males		Females		Persons		Private		Government		Manufacturing		Wholesale and Retail Trade	
	Original	Seas adj	Original	Seas.adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Origi <b>nal</b>	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj
74-75 - August September October November December January February March April May June	(b)3 C-46.5 1,044.8 3,044.1 3,041.9 3,029.4 3,016.1 3,028.8 3,032.0 (b)3,033.2 3,047.5 (b)3.043.7	3,038.5	1,722.7 1,721.1 1,718.0 1,712.7 1,691.6 1,664.2 1,694.4 1,703.4 1,706.6 1,710.8	1,728.6 1,724.7 1,718.4 1,703.7 1,689.8 1,687.0 1,689.5 1,684.3 1,696.8 1,700.2 1,706.3	(b)4,769.2 4,765.9 4,762.1 4,754.6 4,721.0 4,680.3 4,716.8 4,726.4 (b)4,736.5 4,754.0 (b)4,754.5	(b)4,784.1 4,782.1 4,776.9 4,737.2 4,711.0 4,706.7 4,706.9 4,708.0 (b)4,729.3 4,738.2 (b)4,749.8	(b)3,556.4 3,549.6 3,541.7 3,529.9 3,492.8 3,455.3 3,462.8 3,459.4 3,465.3 (b)3,457.1	3,558.8 3,547.8 3,505.1 3,480.5 3,467.7 3,455.8 3,444.6	b)1,212.8 1,216.3 1,220.4 1,224.7 1,228.2 1,225.0 1,254.0 1,267.0 b)1,271.2 1,291.0	(b)1,213.6 1,220.3 1,227.7 1,230.7 1,231.4 1,236.1 1,249.7 1,258.0	(b)1,305.5 1,297.9 1,283.1 1,265.5 1,239.4 1,225.6 1,223.4 1,216.7 1,213.4 1,208.4	(b)1,309.5 1,301.6 1,284.2 4,258.5 1,242.4 1,230.7 1,249.3 1,210.5 1,212.7 1,207.1	957.4 958.1 964.1 967.8 964.3 946.0 947.5 949.6 955.1 955.1	965.7 964.1 966.2 955.0 945.7 950.8 951.8 951.4 956.4 953.5
75-76 - July August September October	(b)3,028.7 3,015.3 3,008.3 3,004.4	3,025.2 3,020.4 3,018.6	1,714.0 1,714.9 1,720.4 1,727.3	1,717.4 1,720.8 1,724.0 1,727.7	4,730.2 4,728.7 4,731.6	(b)4,753.8 4,744.7 4,744.6 4,746.4		(b)3,464 1 3,453.4 3,448.3 3.454.7	1.297.8 1.294.7 1.289.0 1.282.8	1,295.9 1,295.5 1,293.2 1,290.5	1,204.8 1,202.7 1,199.7 1,200.3 1,204.7	1,203.6 1,206.6 1,203.3 1,203.7 1,205.7	955.7 955.3 951.5 954.8 960.0	954.9 962.5 959.7 960.8 962.1

(a) Revised estimates are contained in this table. They are based on one benchmarks established by analysing data from the 1971 population sensus and other relevant sources. The estimates are based on the occurrant Standard Indoor Classification and are not directly comparable with those published previously, which were based on the first table of the classification used for the 1966 population census. Employees in agriculture and private domestic service, defended excluded, (b) Affected by modustrial disputes.

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6.48	Average Weekly Earnings (Preliminary)	**
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5.3	Banking, Major Trading Banks (Preliminary)	
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5.10	Capital, New Raisings by Companies in Australia (Preliminary)	**
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6.4	Employment and Unemployment	*
9.2	Export Price Index	*
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-	Monthly Summary of Business Statistics (Issued by Deputy Commonwealth	
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